

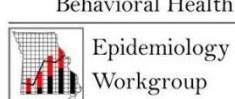
# BHEW Bulletin

October 2018

## LGBTQ Adolescent Behavioral Health in Missouri

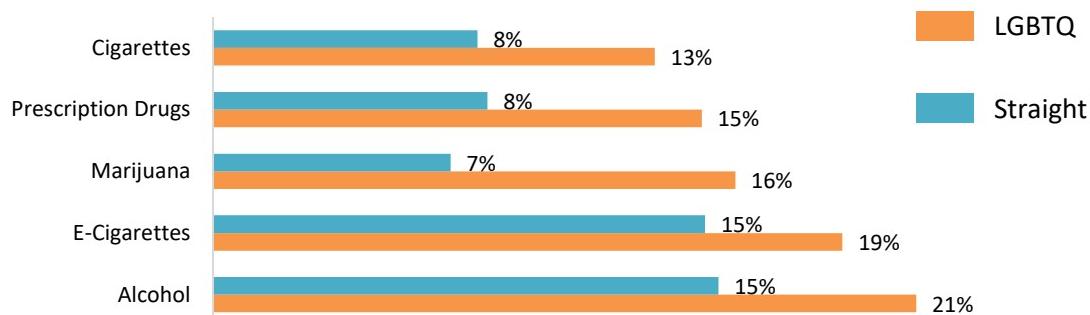


For more information please contact the BHEW at 314-516-8412 or susan.depue@mimh.edu

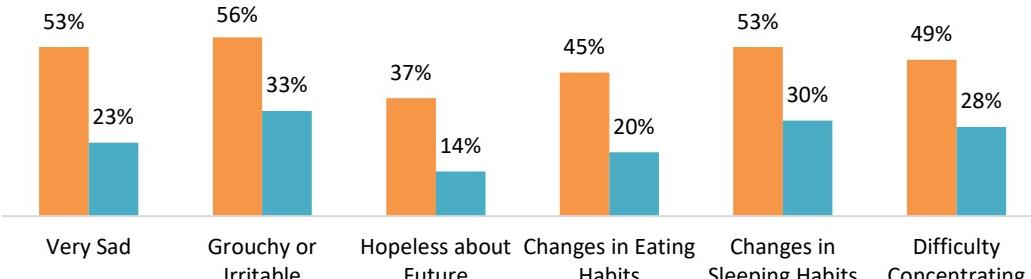


In the United States, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ) individuals are over twice as likely to experience substance use, depression and anxiety, and 4 times as likely to have suicide attempts compared to those identifying as straight.<sup>1,3</sup> Missouri data shows similar patterns.

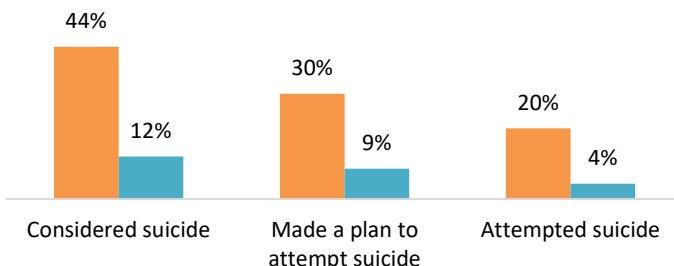
In Missouri, LGBTQ youth consistently report higher rates of substance use than their straight peers.<sup>2</sup>



Similarly, many more LGBTQ youth report experiencing symptoms of depression than straight students.<sup>2</sup>



The rate of LGBTQ suicide attempts in Missouri is nearly five times that of straight youth.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Mental Health America: <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/lgbt-mental-health>.

<sup>2</sup> Missouri Student Survey, 2018.

<sup>3</sup> National Alliance on Mental Illness, 2016: <https://www.nami.org/Find-Support/LGBTQ>.